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conceded  
and increase in lean body mass comprising at least one nutritional material in a nutritionally effective amount and an extract from the fruits of family Piperaceae comprising at least 98% of alkaloid piperine wherein the piperine is present in a therapeutically effective amount such that a daily dose consists of 0.004 to 0.08 mg/kg of body weight.

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a<sup>2</sup>  
16. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for improving gastrointestinal absorption and systemic utilization of nutritional materials, subsequent increase in nutrient induced thermogenesis, and increase in lean body mass; said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a composition containing at least one nutritional material in a nutritionally effective amount, and an extract from the fruit of piper comprising at least 98% of alkaloid piperine in a therapeutically effective amount such that a daily dose consists of 0.004 to 0.08 mg/kg of body weight.

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REMARKS

[ The Office Action dated September 27, 1995, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response thereto.